

19 November 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Mr. Colby's Meeting Before the Commission on the Organization of the Government for the Conduct of Foreign Policy

1. Mr. Colby, accompanied by John Warner, met with the subject Commission today at 9:30 a.m.; the meeting continued through 12:45 p.m. Members present were:

Robert D. Murphy, Chairman
William J. Casey
Mrs. Anne Armstrong
Dr. David M. Abshire
William S. Maillaird
Dr. Stanley P. Wagner
Dr. Arend D. Lubbers
Mike Mansfield
Mrs. Charles W. Englehard, Jr.
Frank C. R. McGlinn

Staff members present were:

Francis O. Wilcox, Executive Director
Fisher Howe, Deputy Director
William B. Spong, General Counsel
Thomas J. Reckford, Staff Assistant on Intelligence
Gloria Adams, Secretary

2. After welcoming Mr. Colby, Mr. Murphy suggested he might wish to discuss security aspects. Mr. Colby then discussed classification, compartmentation and the reasons for both. Mr. Murphy indicated it is hoped that it would be possible to sanitize the transcript. Mr. Colby indicated he would try.

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3. Since there is a transcript, I will not attempt to cover the entire range of subjects. There was considerable discussion of covert actions and of policy approval for covert actions. Dr. Abshire made reference to the current procedure whereby State weekly offers to brief all members of Congress but only about 30 show up. Dr. Abshire suggested this process could be improved in order that members of Congress would be better informed. Mr. Colby stated he has been considering the same problem and was looking to possibly a weekly briefing but only for members of the Armed Services. Possibly this idea could be expanded.

4. Senator Mansfield was present for a substantial period of the time and raised a number of specific questions, generally having to do with the Agency itself, such as our role in Laos, allegations of drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle, ownership of Air America, Mr. Colby's thoughts on a joint committee for intelligence and other such matters.

5. In response to one question, Mr. Colby pointed out that it would be extremely helpful if we had stronger criminal laws to deter disclosure of classified information. He mentioned the Marchetti situation where we were able to get a civil injunction but that if Marchetti had published ahead of time, we probably could not have taken any criminal action. Mr. Colby also mentioned at one point the possible amendments to the National Security Act of 1947 relating to inserting the word "foreign" before "intelligence" wherever it appears.

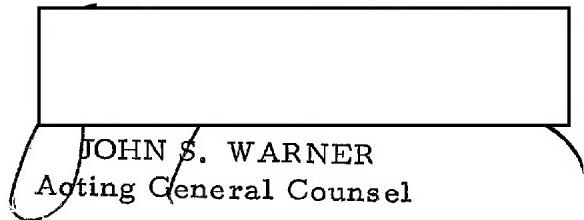
6. Mr. Wilcox inquired of Mr. Colby whether he had any recommendations to improve the functioning of the community to better serve policymakers. Mr. Colby said he did not have any recommendations for major adjustments but that he would consider this matter. Later in the car returning, Mr. Colby felt possibly we should address a response to this and it was agreed we would attempt to draft something for him. Also, we could include in this letter more specific reference to improved criminal laws and amendments to the National Security Act of 1947.

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The transcript

will be under Agency security control at all times until final delivery at the PFIAB offices.

8. The level of knowledge and understanding varied tremendously among the various members of the Commission. The questions by Mansfield, Murphy and Abshire reflected their greater knowledge and understanding of the intelligence positions. Many of the questions from the others were elementary. Nevertheless, they would get on the record with many fundamental factors involving money, personnel and relationships of the community with the policy-makers and CIA's relationships with the other intelligence components. 25X1A



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Acting General Counsel

cc: DCI
DCI/IC/Comptroller
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